

FEBRUARY 2003

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA SPECIAL EDITION

## ENHANCED SMOG CHECK PROGRAM COMING TO SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

As a result of recently enacted legislation, the Enhanced Smog Check Program is coming to the San Francisco Bay Area. Assembly Bill 2637 requires the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) to implement the enhanced elements of the Smog Check Program in the San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin. Enhanced Areas are those with "serious," "severe," or "extreme" ozone pollution problems which do not meet federal or state air quality standards. The new law means that stations will have to inspect vehicles using the dynamometer-based Acceleration Simulation Mode (ASM) test protocol.

BAR plans to begin implementing the program on **July 1, 2003**, at which time the use of a BAR-97 platform will be required. Loaded-mode inspections with "EA" technicians are scheduled to begin approximately 90 days later, on **October 1, 2003**.

The law requires BAR to phase-in the implementation of specified elements of the Enhanced Program. This includes establishing exhaust cut-points for oxides of nitrogen (NOx) emissions and the number of vehicles directed to Test-Only stations for inspection, until those enhanced programs elements are eventually the

*Enhanced (continued 2)*

## TESTING EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ENHANCED AREAS

The geographical area where a vehicle is registered determines the type of test it needs; the type of testing a station performs determines which license the technician needs and what equipment a station must have to test vehicles.

Smog Check stations in the newly Enhanced Bay Area need to have the platform for the BAR-97 Emissions Inspection System (EIS) in place by **July 1, 2003**. Loaded-mode inspections on the dynamometer are scheduled to begin approximately 90 days later, on **October 1, 2003**.

Stations that currently have a BAR-97

### San Francisco Bay Area Enhanced I/M Program



platform, but not the dynamometer, should call the equipment manufacturer to find out what needs to be done to ensure that it complies with the applicable specifications.

Equipment manufacturers say the cost of purchasing the new equipment is about \$30,000 to \$40,000.

Approximately 500 of the stations in the newly Enhanced Areas already own BAR-97 analyzers.

## MAKING AN INFORMED BAR-97 PURCHASE DECISION

BAR recognizes that buying a dynamometer-based emissions inspection system is an important business decision and one that can affect your station for many years. Therefore, it is critical that stations have all the information they need to make the best decision possible.

Here are some tips to help you:

- ▲ Frequently check BAR's Web site at [www.smogcheck.ca.gov](http://www.smogcheck.ca.gov) to make sure that the system you are thinking of buying is currently BAR-certified. If it isn't, you might want to consider buying from another manufacturer. BAR will not initialize systems that are not fully certified.
- ▲ Make sure the manufacturer guarantees in writing that the emissions system will meet all BAR certification requirements. You may want to ask for a money-back clause in the sales contract so that you will be protected if the manufacturer does not honor its commitment to deliver you a system that is fully BAR-certified.
- ▲ Make sure you understand the warranty and service elements of the contract, especially what you are responsible for and what the manufacturer is responsible for. Pay particular attention to the response time to service calls, any charges for these calls, or if there is a limit on the number of calls that can be made in a particular time period. Ask other stations that have purchased dynamometers about how a particular manufacturer has responded to their service calls.
- ▲ Make sure you understand who is responsible for paying for any future hardware and software updates that may be required by BAR. Check how long it will take the manufacturer to install the update or revision after it's been required by BAR.
- ▲ Don't forget to factor in the time needed to get permits and install the equipment. Some dynamometers may require new electrical wiring in a station and others may require the digging of a pit to house the dynamometer's components. Each of these may require permits or inspections from local governments.
- ▲ Don't forget that before bringing a BAR-97 Emissions Inspection System Online, BAR personnel must conduct an initialization inspection of your station to verify that all the required tools, equipment, and manuals are present.
- ▲ Other things to consider include making sure that you have adequate station ventilation, and taking into account the cost of calibration gases and maintenance items like filters and hoses.
- ▲ Finally, get it all in writing! Don't rely on verbal promises made by the manufacturer's sales or service personnel. This will be a long-term investment for you. Get a written commitment from the manufacturer that they will provide comprehensive parts, service, and software support for the emissions system until the year 2010, if not longer.

### Enhanced (continued)

same as those already implemented in other Enhanced Areas of the state. Therefore, to ensure a smooth transition, BAR will develop special NO<sub>x</sub> cut-points for vehicles registered in the Bay Area Basin. As technicians gain experience with loaded-mode repairs, the NO<sub>x</sub> cut-points will be adjusted until they are at the same levels as those currently in place in the other Enhanced Areas of California.

Also, BAR will begin directing a limited number of vehicles to Test-Only stations. As Test-Only inspection capacity increases, the number of directed vehicles will be increased until the percentage of directed vehicles is the same as in other Enhanced Areas of the state.

This action will affect nearly 4.8 million Bay Area vehicles, providing a more cohesive program while significantly reducing smog pollution in the state.

## NEW PROGRAM REQUIRES SMOG TECHNICIANS TO UPGRADE LICENSES

To perform loaded-mode Smog Check inspections, diagnoses, and repairs in the Enhanced Program in the Bay Area, scheduled to begin **October 1, 2003**, technicians must possess a valid Advanced Emissions Specialist (EA) license with an ASM endorsement.

To obtain an EA license, a technician with a current EB license must:

- ▲ Complete the Enhanced Clean Air Car Course (28 hours)
- ▲ Complete the "Smog Check Program 2003 Update Course" (8 hours)
- ▲ Submit an application to BAR for an EA license. As with EB licenses, EA license applicants

must show evidence of current BAR certification in electrical/electronic systems, engine performance and advanced engine performance, or Automotive Excellence (ASE) A6, A8 & L1 certifications.

- ▲ The EA license also must have the "ASM Endorsement," which is added to the license when the technician completes an additional course on dynamometer safety. Technicians who have completed the Advanced Clean Air Car Course [after September 2002] have already met that requirement.

Obtaining the ASM Endorsement

requires completing the 8-hour BAR-97 Transition Course, available separately, or as part of the Enhanced Clean Air Car Course.

To see if your EA license has the ASM Endorsement, go to BAR's Web site at: [www.smogcheck.ca.gov/stdpage.asp?body=/techs/techquery.asp](http://www.smogcheck.ca.gov/stdpage.asp?body=/techs/techquery.asp)

Training courses are filling up rapidly. Be sure to check the special Bay Area implementation section of BAR's Web site at [www.smogcheck.ca.gov](http://www.smogcheck.ca.gov) by clicking on the picture of the Golden Gate Bridge. You will find a list of training schools in or near the Bay Area. The schools are also listed on page 5 of this publication.

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA BASIN ZIP CODES

Beginning **July 1, 2003**, stations in the San Francisco Bay Area Basin will be required to use a BAR-97 Emissions Inspection System (EIS) platform to conduct Smog Check inspections. Loaded-mode testing is anticipated to commence in the San Francisco Bay Area Basin 90 days later, on **October 1, 2003**.

### San Francisco Bay Area Basin

County <sup>(1)</sup>	Newly Enhanced with Test-Only
Alameda	Entire County
Contra Costa	Entire County
Marin	All zip codes <b>except</b> 94924, 94929, 94933, 94937, 94938, 94940, 94946, 94950, 94956, 94963, 94970, 94971
Napa	All zip codes <b>except</b> 94508, 94515, 94562, 94567, 94573, 94574, 94576
San Francisco	Entire County
San Mateo	All zip codes <b>except</b> 94018, 94019, 94020, 94021, 94037, 94038, 94060, 94074
Santa Clara	All zip codes <b>except</b> 94550, 95023, 95076, 95140
Solano <sup>(2)</sup>	Entire County
Sonoma	All zip codes <b>except</b> 94972, 95416, 95431, 95433, 95442, 95452, 95476, 95487

(1) ZIP codes may cross county boundaries, and test type is determined by both county and ZIP code. Please look at the county you are located in, and then look to see if your ZIP code is affected by the changes (AB 2637, Chapter 1001, Statutes of 2002).

(2) This county also contains areas that were previously enhanced, as well as areas outside of the San Francisco Bay Area Basin that will become partially enhanced (no test-only), on **April 1, 2003**, due to a request from the Yolo-Solano Air Pollution Control District.

## TECHNICIAN TRAINING LOCATOR REQUEST FORM

The Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) is providing a training locator service for qualified technicians in the San Francisco Bay Area that need to upgrade from an EB license to an EA license. To use the training locator service, you must meet all the following qualifications:

- ▲ You are a currently licensed EB technician in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- ▲ You are not currently enrolled in or have registered to take an Advanced Clean Air Car Course or the 8-hour 2003 Update Class.
- ▲ You have contacted at least four Bay Area BAR-certified training schools between February 20, 2003, and May 10, 2003, and were told:
  - ▲ The school does not offer the Advanced Clean Air Car Course or the 8-hour 2003 Update Class; **or**,
  - ▲ All Advanced Clean Air Car Courses or the 8-hour 2003 Update Classes at the school are full through August 1, 2003.

If all the above conditions are met, BAR will assist you in locating the Advanced Clean Air Car Course or the 8-hour 2003 Update Class so that you can upgrade from an EB to an EA license. **BAR will not pay for the classes; you must pay for classes you need.** Once BAR receives this form, we will contact you with class schedules and locations. Although BAR will try to find the appropriate classes in the location you selected, some travel may be required. Once BAR provides you with the information, it is your responsibility to enroll in the classes and make the necessary arrangements to attend the classes. You must then pass the Advanced licensing exam to receive an EA license.

If you qualify for the locator service and want to use it, complete this request form and fax or mail it to:

**Bureau of Automotive Repair  
Smog Check Technical Services Branch  
10240 Systems Parkway  
Sacramento, CA 95827  
Fax (916) 255-4352**

Completed request forms must be received by BAR no later than May 10, 2003. An electronic version of this form and a list of schools will be posted on BAR's Web site at [www.smogcheck.ca.gov](http://www.smogcheck.ca.gov). Do not submit this form unless you meet all of the qualifications.

### REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. Technician Name \_\_\_\_\_  

Last First

 Current EB Technician License Information (Number, Expiration Date) Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_
2. Contact Telephone Numbers: Day (     ) \_\_\_\_\_ Evening (     ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address: (optional) \_\_\_\_\_
3. List of Schools or Institutions You Contacted to Enroll in the Necessary Classes

School Name	Phone Number Called	Date Contacted	2003 Update Class Available by 8/1/03?	Advanced Clean Air Car Course Available by 8/1/03?
			No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
			No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
			No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
			No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

4. Circle one: I prefer to attend classes in the: North Bay Region (Sonoma, Marin, Napa Counties); Peninsula Bay Area Region (San Francisco, San Mateo Counties); South Bay Region (Santa Clara County); East Bay Region (Contra Costa, Alameda, Solano Counties).

\* Classes may not be available at preferred dates, times, or locations. By providing class information, BAR does not guarantee that a technician will successfully complete the class or pass the licensing exam. The locator service will not be offered to an applicant that has entered incorrect and/or false information or when the requested information is omitted.

## **AVAILABILITY OF BAR SMOG CHECK TECHNICIAN TRAINING COURSES** ***In the San Francisco Bay Area***

**Note:** Some schools only provided their Spring 2003 course schedules. They have advised BAR that they will continue to offer these courses in Summer/Fall 2003.

<b>Training Institution:</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Availability of the Advanced Clean Air Car Course</b>	<b>Availability of the 2003 Update Course</b>	<b>Availability of the BAR 97 Transition Class</b>
Chabot College (510) 723-6855	Alameda	One Class Only - Started January 2003 (class full)	One Class Only - Started January 2003 (class full)	No plans at this time to offer the course
College of Alameda (510) 748-2130	Alameda	N/A	N/A	N/A
Los Positas College (925) 373-5843	Alameda	Will be offering courses, call for schedule	Will be offering courses, call for schedule	Will offer the course if demand dictates.
Sequoia Institute (510) 580-1266	Alameda	Continuous courses offerings starting March 6th through the end of the year. Call for schedule.	Continuous courses offerings starting March 6th through the end of the year. Call for schedule.	Will offer the course if demand dictates.
Automotive Training Schools - Martinez (800) 865-1199 x3179	Contra Costa	1/7, 2/10, 3/10, 3/11, 4/15	1/30, 3/4, 4/1, 5/7	Will offer the course if demand dictates.
Los Medanos College (925) 439-2181 x3267	Contra Costa	N/A	2/23	Will offer the course if demand dictates.
College of Marin (415) 883-2211 x8808	Marin	5/16	4/5	Will offer the course
Skyline College (650) 738-4410	San Mateo	2/23, 3/8, 3/22, 4/12, 5/3, 5/17, 6/7, 6/28, 7/12, 7/26, 8/8, 8/23	2/15, 2/22, 3/2, 3/22, 3/29, 4/13, 4/26, 5/11, 5/18, 6/14, 6/22, 6/29, 7/13, 7/26, 8/3,	3/1, 4/5, 4/19, 5/10, 5/31, 6/14, 7/19, 8/2, 8/9
Automotive Training Schools - San Jose (800) 865-1199 x3179	Santa Clara	2/6, 3/11, 4/10, 5/13	3/4, 4/2	Will offer the course if demand dictates.
Automotive Training Schools - Mountain View (800) 865-1199 x3179	Santa Clara	2/10, 3/8, 3/22	1/25, 2/4, 4/12, 5/6	Will offer the course if demand dictates.
DeAnza College (408) 864-8768	Santa Clara	Classes full to end of February, will offer additional classes until Summer	Classes full to end of February, will offer additional classes until Summer	Will offer the course if demand dictates.
Evergreen Valley College (408) 270-6490	Santa Clara	2/24, 5/5, 7/14	2/8, 3/22, 5/10	3/15, 5/17, 7/19
Santa Rosa Junior College (707) 527-4404	Sonoma	School is offering a combined (36 hours) course, Classes will be offered: 1/29, 2/19, 3/12, 4/2		
Santa Cruz R.O.P. - Santa Cruz H.S. (831) 479-5333	Santa Cruz	4/29	3/8, 4/26, 6/7	Will allow techs to attend last portion of Enhanced CACC to obtain license endorsement
Automotive Training Schools - Monterey (800) 865-1199 x3179	Monterey	Will offer the course if demand dictates.	1/22, 2/22, 3/29, 5/17	None scheduled at this time, will offer the course if demand dictates.
San Joaquin Delta College (209) 954-5230	San Joaquin	4/16, 5/17	2/22, 3/29, 6/14	Will offer the course if demand dictates.

As of 2/6/03



**State of California**

Gray Davis, Governor

**California Department of Consumer Affairs**

Kathleen Hamilton, Director

**Bureau of Automotive Repair**

Patrick Dorais, Acting Chief

10240 Systems Parkway

Sacramento, CA 95827

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**BAR FIELD OFFICE PHONE NUMBERS**

Bakersfield	(661) 833-6304
Canoga Park	(818) 596-4400
Culver City	(310) 410-0024
Fresno	(559) 445-5015
Oceanside	(760) 439-0942
Placentia	(714) 961-7940
Richmond	(510) 243-9410
Riverside	(909) 782-4250
Sacramento	(916) 255-4200
San Jose	(408) 277-1860
South El Monte	(626) 575-6934

**OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS**

BAR Licensing	(916) 255-3145
ET Help Desk	(866) 860-8509
MCI	(800) 731-SMOG
(Then press 5 for technical support)	

Referee Scheduling Center	(800) 622-7733
Parts Locator	(800) 826-3566
DCA Consumer Information Center	(800) 952-5210

## Training Status of Smog Technicians in the Newly Enhanced Areas of the San Francisco Bay Area Basin as of (2/01/2003)

	Alameda	Contra Costa	Marin	Napa	San Francisco	San Mateo	Santa Clara	Solano	Sonoma	TOTALS
Technician has EA license and ASM (dyno) Endorsement <b>[Ready to start the new program on October 1, 2003.]</b>	146	65	6	9	53	62	86	39	23	489
Technician has EA license but no ASM (dyno) Endorsement <b>[Needs 8-hour BAR-97 Transition Class on dyno safety by October 1, 2003.]</b>	49	37	4	1	45	47	63	8	10	264
* Technician has a current EB license <b>[Needs training and passage of the BAR EA license examination to obtain an EA license by October 1, 2003.]</b>	286	299	49	39	89	102	361	70	183	1,478
<b>TOTALS</b>	481	401	59	49	187	211	510	117	216	2,231

\* An EB technician may need to complete one or multiple BAR courses for an EA license (also requires passage of the EA exam).